bring opposition to an end. It was not until 1683 that an imperial order allowed the Chinese once more to dwell on the coasts of Fukien.

The relatively easy triumph of the Manchus—so much more quickly achieved than had been that of the Mongols nearly four centuries before—does not necessarily prove that the Chinese had become less valorous than their forefathers. Had they presented a united front, the path of the Ch'ing would have been more difficult. But for the internal rivalries and weakness of the Ming which made many prominent Chinese despair of any future for that house and look with hope to the Manchus as possible guarantors of order, and but for the active assistance of Wu San-kuei, of many another Chinese commander, and of Chinese troops the conquest would have been much slower and perhaps impossible. Moreover, even before their final victory, the Ch'ing were adopting Chinese civilization, and were posing as a legitimate Chinese dynasty. The conquest was not, strictly speaking, by foreigners, but by a people largely Chinese in culture and not unrelated to some of the Northern Chinese in blood. Although to the very end of their power—in 1912—they endeavored to keep themselves aloof from the Chinese as a race and to a certain extent in manners and customs, the Manchus zealously supported Chinese institutions. They were wiser than had been the Mongols. They perpetuated the administrative system and laws of the Ming with but little alteration. The fifteen provinces of the Ming were increased to eighteen by the subdivision of some of the larger ones. Manchu garrisons were placed in strategic cities in a number of the provinces and were supported at public expense. Man-

chus were appointed, along with Chinese, on the boards at Peking and were admitted to competition in the civil service examinations. The male Chinese were forced to shave part of their heads and wear the queue—the Manchu form of headdress—as a sign of loyalty to the dynasty. With these and a few other exceptions, however, government went on as it had under Chinese rule. The great majority of the positions in the bureaucracy, including some of the very highest, were held by Chinese, Confucius was honored, the civil service examinations were conducted with practically the same curriculum and machinery as under the Ming, and many of the Manchus became expert in Chinese lore.